THE BOOK OF RECOLLECTIONS

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thank you, claire.

some sources say that, over the course of several days, GOD created the sun, and the moon, and the trees, and all the animals. other sources disagree. i suspect IT is not sure, ITSELF. imagine you are GOD, and on one day, after many years, you think,

"HOW DOES THE STORY GO, AGAIN?"

today i assert the following, which i have believed for quite some time: that GOD has forgotten what IT has done, that IT seeks to remember, and that we, curious creatures that we are, were built to jog ITs memory. i am writing this for you, so you can know, and i am writing this to remind GOD why IT did all this. i suspect IT has forgotten even that.

for a long time, i have kept this knowledge to myself. i thought that few would listen. i was afraid that i, myself, would not listen. i was wrong.

FACT I:

THE HUMAN RACE EXISTS TO EXCAVATE

i am doing my duty, and i ask that you do yours. read on, and go forth, and multiply, and take your instruments into your hands, and dig, as i have, and uncover what memories you can. and share them. ■

FACT II:

ALL WORKS ARE ESTIMATES

through our heads and hands and voices, GOD has spent eras speculating. could there have been *mermaids*? could there have been *witches*, or *nasty voices on the wind*? civilizations churn out these thoughts, turn them over and over, count their consequences, make their verdicts.

THERE COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MERMAIDS!

of this, we are now reasonably sure. at least, if mermaids play some role in the machine, it remains invisible to us. and we have done a great deal of searching. GOD can cross mermaids off the list of possibilities, and in this respect we have fulfilled our role well. but this is not enough.

FACT III:

MODERNITY HAS POISONED US

we live in an age of skepticism. GOD has forgotten our purpose, and with IT, so have we. indeed, humankind has dismissed the concept of purpose. we refuse to believe that anything happens for a *reason*. we refuse to believe that *anything* happens which we cannot confirm. only the dwindling religious recall of the importance of *faith*, of *visions*! these are the faltering fragments of

GOD's memories! they call out to ITs people! we must heed the warnings! see the signs! we are not only here to debunk, but to brainstorm, to conceive. if we are to discover the truth, we must plunge into the depths of our imaginations, swim in the dimly remembered. and we must believe in it.

FACT IV:
WE MUST RENEW PURPOSE

i believe that GOD has only recently forgotten the concept of purpose. in earlier days, we believed in many things, things which could *only* exist for a purpose. examine again the *mermaid!* the mermaid is biologically nonsensical! it could not have arisen from the process of evolution we know. a mermaid is a *symbol.* it is *compelling.* why did GOD believe there may have been mermaids?

FACT V:
IN THOSE DAYS, GOD BELIEVED IT MAY HAVE CREATED TO COMPEL

you must not forget this. let it guide you. have you felt COMPELLED in your life? for all you know, there may be a PURPOSE! hear, you are a cell in the body of GOD! hear, GOD! you must remember! ■

YOU CAN QUOTE ME
ON THIS ONE:

TRUTH IS PRIOR TO LOGIC!
IF YOUR TRUTH IS RIDDLED
WITH "PLOT HOLES,"
IT SPEAKS ONLY TO YOUR BRAVERY!
LISTEN TO THE VOICE
OF GOD WITHIN YOU!

GO FORTH!
BE COURAGEOUS!
TELL THE TRUTH!

NOTES (take them!)

FACT VI:

WE ARE FIGHTING A LOSING BATTLE

i hope it is clear by now that GOD is forgetting more quickly than IT can remember, even with our help. at this moment, we are making a great leap forward: we have remembered our PURPOSE, insofar as you heed my message! but though we allow our illusions and delusions to COMPEL us, we must have no illusions of unearned success! the fog that surrounds our GOD can only be called the **devil**, and **it** *encroaches.* what can we do? at a time like this, one ought to lay down *commandments.* remember that "rules are made to be broken" – we must suspect this saying was coined for a *reason! follow your heart! etc!*

1. BELIEVE YOURSELF

you have to change your attitude! *you have to change your mode of skepticism.* when something *occurs* to you, when you *notice* something, don't just think "what is that?" think: *"why did this occur to me?" "why did i notice this?"* don't ever dismiss your idle thoughts! every experience you have is potentially valuable.

2. REMEMBER THE PAST & REPEAT IT

all of history has been dedicated, if unknowingly, to this mission. don't let humanity's accumulated knowledge go to waste! in the end, nothing is more important than your *own*, *internal* wisdom, but you should at least *hear* the wisdom of your elders, and you should pass it on! in fact, there are surely many clues our ancestors have left us *without even realizing!*

3. SHARE YOUR KNOWLEDGE

and remember, *everything is a form of knowledge*. follow your creative instinct! take the thing which you are PASSIONATE about, and make of it a message, and spread that message to the ends of the earth. it is an easier task now than it has ever been! *take advantage!* your work has MEANING. do not waste it!

4. BE CONSCIOUS AND UNCONSCIOUS

really, explore every source of thoughts available to you. you must be both *analytic* and *open*. let things become significant to you *without knowing*, and then *know them*. engage in *informed* COMPULSION.

5. BE KIND

this one is important. we are all here for the same REASON. try to be nice, and don't take more than you need.

thank you for your time.
if you can, do evangelize.

sincerely,
əloise.